

**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing, re-examination and reconsideration of the subject matter identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.112, and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended in response to issues raised in the Office Action. Claims 39-47, 52-54, 56-63 and 66-76 remain pending in this application.

Claims 52, 56 and 57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the reason given in paragraph (1) of the Office Action. In response, claim 52 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, this rejection has been obviated.

Claims 67 and 68 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the reasons given in paragraph (2) of the Office Action. In response, the structures in claim 67 have been corrected. Claim 68 has been revised as an independent claim and now requires the presence of compounds of formulae X, VIII and XIII. Thus, claim 68 is clearly of a different scope than claim 67. Accordingly, this rejection has been obviated.

Claims 66-68 and 73-76 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the reasons given in paragraph (3) of the Office Action. In response, claim 66 has been amended to clarify that the optional OH groups are optionally substituted. Claim 66 has been amended to clarify that the biuret is optional so the claim must contain a compound of formula (II) and/or a compound of formula (III). The claim has also been amended to clarify that the biuret is obtained from a compound containing an isocyanate group of general formula (VI). The biuret of claim 66 is broader in scope than the biuret of claim 67.

In view of the above amendments and reasons, the §112, second paragraph, rejection of claims 66-68 and 73-76 should be withdrawn. Such action is earnestly requested.

Claims 66-68 and 73-76 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for the reason given in paragraph (4) of the Office Action. Reconsideration of this rejection is requested for at least the reasons which follow.

The biuretization of isocyanates is well-known in the art. Example 12 on page 39 of the specification discloses compositions containing HDI dimer and a biuret derived from an isocyanate. Those of ordinary skill in the art of biuretization would be apprised of the scope of claim 66 based on a review of the present disclosure and their knowledge of the art. Accordingly, the §112, first paragraph, rejection should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 66-68 and 73-76 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,663,274 to Lee et al. for reasons set forth in paragraph (6) of the Office Action. Reconsideration of this rejection is requested in view of the above amendments and the following reasons.

Presently amended claims 66-68 and 73-76 do not encompass mixtures of biurets and uretidinediones. Accordingly, the §102(e) rejection is inapplicable to these claims and should be withdrawn. Such action is respectfully requested.

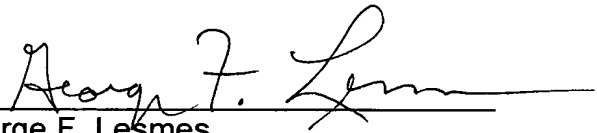
Claims 66-68 and 73-76 were rejected on the ground of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 45-49 of copending application, Serial No. 10/682,412 for the reason given in paragraph (9) of the Office Action. Since claims 66-68 and 73-76 no longer encompass mixtures of uretidinediones and biurets, this rejection is no longer applicable and should be withdrawn.

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order and such action is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (703) 838-6683 at his earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 29, 2004

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